Report of IWG-5: Space Science, Radio Astronomy, Maritime Mobile and Aeronautical Mobile Service Matters

Informal Working Group 5 (IWG-5) of the WRC-2000 Advisory Committee, acting according to its Terms of Reference, developed preliminary views and proposals to be considered by the full WRC-2000 Advisory Committee on all matters concerning Space Science, Radio Astronomy, Maritime Mobile, and Aeronautical Service Matters. The Group was established with Steve Kaltenmark as chairman and Jim Carroll as vice-chairman. The FCC Advisors for IWG-5 were Marcus Wolf and Richard Swanson.

IWG-5 held 10 meetings between April 7,1998 and June 3, 1999. The Group had 31 participants throughout the process with a maximum of 12 present at any given meeting. IWG-5 considered and/or prepared 33 documents, including the minutes of the meetings. The specific WRC-2000 Agenda Items addressed by IWG-5 were:

- 1.7 review the use of the HF bands by the aeronautical mobile (R) and maritime mobile services with a view to protecting the operational, distress and safety communications, taking into account Resolution 346 (WRC-97);
- 1.10 consider results of ITU-R studies carried out in accordance with Resolution 218 (WRC-97) and take appropriate action;
- 1.15.1 consider new allocations to the radionavigation-satellite service to support developments in the 1 to 6 GHz range;
- 1.15.2 consider the addition of the space-to-space direction to the radionavigation-satellite service in the 1215 1260 MHz and 1559 1610 MHz frequency bands;
- 1.15.3 consider the status of allocations to services other than the radionavigation-satellite (RR S5.355 and S5.359) in the 1559 1610 MHz band;
- 1.16 consider allocation of frequency bands above 71 GHz to the earth exploration-satellite (passive) and radio astronomy services, taking into account Resolution 723 (WRC-97);
- 1.17 consider possible worldwide allocation for the earth exploration-satellite (passive) and space research (passive) services in the band 18.6 18.8 GHz;
- 1.18 consider the use of new digital technology for the maritime-mobile service in the band 156 174 MHz and consequential revision of Appendix S18 [18] taking into account Resolution 342 (WRC-97).

Most of the agenda items assigned to IWG-5 were primarily US government issues and preliminary views and draft proposals for these items were developed by the US government agencies (in the RCS and IRAC) and forwarded to IWG-5 for its review and comment. IWG-5 developed a preliminary view for Agenda Item 1.7 and a draft proposal for Agenda Item 1.10. For Agenda Item 1.15.3, there was no preliminary view or draft proposal developed by either the US government agencies or IWG-5. This agenda item addresses the removal of countries from footnotes and, since the US is not one of the countries listed in the footnote, it was agreed that it was inappropriate for the US to have a proposal on this item.

In addition, IWG-5 reviewed the Agenda Items deleted from Resolution 721 and the Agenda Items in Resolution 722. The chairman of IWG-5 forwarded the opinion of the Group on these future conference Agenda Items to IWG-10. With respect to the items deleted from Resolution 721 that were assigned to IWG-5 (i.e., items 8.3, 8.4, 8.6, and 8.7), the Group recommended that these items not be resurrected for a future conference agenda. With respect to the Agenda Items in Resolution 722 assigned to IWG-5, the Group recommended that all of these items should remain on the WRC-02/03 agenda with the exception of Agenda Item 3.3.

Steve Kaltenmark Chairman, IWG-5